

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Remarks

1. The Office Action has been made issued in response to amendment filed December 18, 2008.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Niels Haun (Reg #: 48,488) on July 30, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 36, insert the phrase, "using a digital computing device to perform the steps of:" between lines 4 and 5; [...the method including the steps of: using a digital computing device to perform the steps of: (a) selecting a plurality of separate image pixel...].

In line seventeen of claim 36, insert the word 'as' between the words 'selecting' and 'a' ; [(d) selecting as a target].

In line two of claim 46 insert the word 'selected' between the words 'said' and 'target' and remove the phrase "one of said plurality of separate image data sets";

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[...selecting from said selected target ~~one of said plurality of separate image data sets~~ those...].

In line two of claim 47 insert the word 'selected' between the words 'said' and 'target' and remove the phrase "one of said plurality of separate image data sets";
[...selecting from said selected target ~~one of said plurality of separate image data sets~~ those...].

In line four of claim 50, remove the phrase "the method including the steps of" and insert the word 'comprising'; [... located, ~~the method including the steps of~~ comprising:].

In lines 12-13 of claim 50, insert the word 'as' between the words 'from' and 'a';
[...from as a target...].

In lines 2-3 of claim 60 insert the word 'selected' between the words 'said' and 'target' and remove the phrase "one of said plurality of separate image data sets";
[...select from said selected target ~~one of said plurality of separate image data sets~~ those...].

In lines 2-3 of claim 61 insert the word 'selected' between the words 'said' and 'target' and remove the phrase "one of said plurality of separate image data sets";
[...select from said selected target ~~one of said plurality of separate image data sets~~ those...].

Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art teaches or fairly suggest " selecting a target one of said plurality of separate image data sets and selecting therefrom those image data items which represent image pixels located in a common first plane containing said first locus and generating a first spatial-domain image according to the data items so selected; and (e) generating a composite image containing said first spatial-domain image and said time-domain image aligned such that those pixels of the first spatial-domain image and of the time-domain image which share a common image pixel location within said reference frame are arranged in-line".

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Claims 36-37, 39-42, 44-51, 53-56, 58-63 and 65 renumbered claims 1-25 are allowed.

Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANDRAE S. ALLISON whose telephone number is

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(571)270-1052. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vikkram Bali can be reached on (571) 272-7415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Yubin Hung/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624

/A. S. A./
Examiner, Art Unit 2624
July 31, 2009